

FEDERAL CITY PERFORMING ARTS ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Friday, January 8, 1993
Levine School of Music

MINUTES

Directors: Present: Brayton, Dorr, Fiorito, Madigan,
McClelland, Moore, Payich, Streit,
Winter, Wolfe, Ziskind
Absent: Gibb, Moore, Shaw (no proxies assigned)
Guests: Buhrman, Herman, Holloway, Rivard,
Rosendall

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes for the meeting of the November 20, 1992, were not available. The Secretary promised them before the February meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT (See attached notes)

McClelland distributed the report which reflects the first six months of the fiscal year. There was some discussion on his comment on having to stop ticket sales while individual members had unsold tickets. There was discussion regarding the financial responsibility for unsold tickets. Rosendall pointed out that there has been a long practice that if you were holding unsold tickets by the time of the concert, the individual was responsible for them. Buhrman and others suggested that this was a clear understanding of the arrangements. McClelland noted that bills for advertising were sent out on 12/10/92. Herman commented that part of the problem with ticket sales was that we were unsure as to the actual seating capacity of the house. He had printed 1000 tickets, but was afraid that the house had already been over-sold. Motion to accept the report: Brayton, second: Winter. Report accepted.

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

1. Streit reported that negotiations with National City Christian Church are not going well. If we are unable to come to an agreement with them for rehearsal space, we will need to move very quickly to find another site. He asked members who have any leads on rehearsal space to get in touch with him.

2. Korpon has indicated his desire to step down as Executive Producer at the end of this season. Streit noted that this transition will be an important one for the Chorus. He and

Korpon have several ideas on a successor, other suggestions/nominations are welcome.

3. The recital scheduled for 1/9/93 has been postponed. Tentative plans look to June as a new time for this event. The need for fundraising hasn't eased off any yet. Gibb is looking at another fund-raiser for May.

4. Streit noted that the organization has come a long way in this year. He expressed his thanks to the Board for the sense of cooperation and support, but reminded everyone that we can't let down yet. He encouraged all to be open with him. If we see problems, Streit wants to know about them.

INAUGURATION REPORT (See attached handouts)

Rosendall reviewed progress to date on getting an invitation to sing at one of the events associated with the coming Inauguration. We have received an invitation to sing prior to the Tribute to David Mixner at the Capital Hilton. The performance would take place in the lobby of the hotel. The chorus, dressed in suits, would stand on a staircase in the lobby and greet guests arriving for the event. Part of Rosendall's proposal would be to invite members of the Little Rock Men's Chorus to sing with us. Rosendall has been working to find housing for the 6-8 members of the chorus who would come to Washington for the event.

There are several issues that remain. One question will be how many members can perform at a late Tuesday afternoon event. A poll of members would be taken at the rehearsal of 1/10/93 & the Music Director would determine if we would have enough people present and a balance of voices to put on a credible presentation.

MOTION: That we accept the invitation to sing at the Mixner event with the approval of the musical director regarding adequate personnel for the event.

Motion: Ziskind, second: Brayton.

In the discussion that followed, Ziskind asked whether the Board could accept the concept of the performance. Holloway questioned whether enough people would be able to take the afternoon off work. Someone suggested that chorus members would need to arrive about 2:00 p.m. to go through security for the 3:30 p.m. event. Ziskind indicated that he felt that it was a great event possibility. Rosendall suggested that we should push to get people there. Rosendall pointed out that as he worked on this Inauguration project, he was getting clear signals that people wanted to be a part of this event. Herman noted that this is a salute to Mixner, a close friend of the President. This could

present a long-term possibility. Streit asked for a vote. Motion carried. Rosendall agreed to call the Little Rock chorus. Ziskind wanted to thank Rosendall for all the hard work and effort put into this project.

MARKETING STRATEGY REPORT

In Moore's absence, Streit reported that Moore and Ehrlich have met once and have developed a well-reasoned plan. Their goal will be to sell-out all three MOW concerts in April.

MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Herman reported that the tickets have been printed for the three concerts. Because this concert is expected to sell out, tickets will be restricted to the "committed" category. Letters will go out to Capital Club and season ticket holders in a few weeks. All of the talent is under contract. All that remains is housing for BETTY. Community housing is moving ahead. He is now getting housing forms from the L & G Chorus. This is especially important since we will be responsible for housing the Atlanta Feminist Chorus. Herman raised the question as to whether and how many complementary tickets should be given to the visiting choruses. There were several minutes of heated discussion on this issue.

Motion: That we provide each Chorus with 5 complementary tickets. **Motion:** Brayton, second: Payich.

After discussion, Brayton and Payich agreed to amend their motion to include 20 tickets to the L & G Chorus. Motion carried.

In Moore's absence, Herman reported that there had been little progress on finding a site for the after-concert party for April.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

1. Holloway reported that he is having trouble getting the scores for **Hidden Legacy**. UPS is tracking down the shipment. In the meantime, he expects an overnight package of scores. He asked for assistance in getting photocopies for the first rehearsal.

2. Holloway reported that he has not heard from the Amsterdam chorus in recent weeks. He is looking for a list of the repertoire. The **Pride** concert will focus on Broadway. He is getting some material from Larry Moore, and will have Moore arrange a "major medley" of about 8-10 minutes duration. AFGM will do some Gershwin.

3. Holloway reported on the work that the Repertoire Advisory Committee has done for the coming season. [see attached report] The Holiday concert would be traditional with brass. In the Spring there would be a production concert focusing on the variety shows of the 50s. The Pride concert would include a new work to be commissioned of Roger Borland to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Stonewall. [see attached sheet] This would be a project of 5 choruses. While each chorus could perform the work in the Spring, the "world premier" would be a part of the Gay Games in New York. All five choruses would be invited to share in the New York performance.

In the discussion that followed, Holloway noted that the joint commission would be the kind of project that would attract significant gifts. There is no time-line set for the payment of the \$4000 portion of the fee that would be GMCW's share. At this point, Holloway stated, he is looking for a commitment. Ziskind lent his support and enthusiasm to the project. When asked, Holloway reported that housing in New York would be on our own. Dorr suggested that it might be valuable to separate the proposal into two issues, the commission and the performance in New York.

Motion: That we authorize Holloway to proceed with plans for the commission with a \$4000 fee to be contributed by GMCW. Motion: Brayton, second: Ziskind. Motion carried.

In regards to the Holiday concert, Holloway indicated that what he has planned could well be performed in a church. He suggested that if we use Lisner for a venue, we might consider a second matinee performance. Streit indicated that we are looking at the Warner, but that there are problems with that house because of the possibility of being bumped by a road production that could be extended. Ziskind suggested looking at two Saturdays.

Holloway asked for concurrence on the concepts he outlined in order to proceed. McClelland suggested that there was concurrence, but that a closer examination will take place when budgets are to be approved. McClelland noted that we have more experience with the costs involved in a major production. McClelland asked about the CD commitment. Since we are collecting money, he feels that we have an obligation to the donors.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Brayton & Madigan shared an option paper that they had worked up on the issue of changes to the board composition. [see attachment] They reminded the Board that from their study, the by-laws can only be changed with a vote of the membership of the Chorus.

Ziskind asked as to the purpose of such a move. Streit responded that it was his goal to explore expanding board membership. Rosendall noted that the current structure would allow for a Board of Trustees as well as a Board of Directors. Wolfe asked if membership would be limited to the Capital Club. Brayton responded, no, that our structure allows considerable flexibility. Holloway expressed concern about having this discussion without the larger conversation of which this a piece. Other choruses have had larger conversations with long-range planning with a clearer vision of a board of directors. Such a restructuring would be a part of a larger vision and education process. He stated that he thought that the Board was only picking around the problem. Brayton responded that we can't do anything until we ammend the by-laws. Holloway responded that he doesn't see a clear context for this discussion. He would like to see a plan for the process. Rosendall suggested that if our goal is to expand the board beyond singing and support members, let's modify the by-laws. If we want a separate Board of Trustees, let's do that. McClelland suggested that the goal was to get additional talent and skills on a working board. Winter noted that if people want to get involved they only need to join the support staff. Fiorito suggested that we need to get something in writing, a plan or a strategy. Brayton suggested that what he and Madigan were offering was a first piece.

2. Holloway requested that GMCW subsidize his air fare to the GALA Music Directors meeting. Cost to be about \$180. Fiorito asked about the Cultural Alliance program with USAir. Holloway noted that the program is now dead.

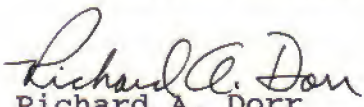
Motion: To pay the air fare for \$180.00 for the Music Director to attend the GALA Music Director's meeting in Atlanta.
Motion: Ziskind, second Brayton. Motion carried.

3. Ziskind and Fiorito asked the Board about their proposal for fund-raising dinner parties. Several Board members committed to having such events. Ziskind and Fiorito will be polling additional Board members for a committment

4. Streit announced that we have received a \$5000 grant from the DC Arts Commission. There will be a de-briefing scheduled.

Motion to adjourn: Payich, Second: Brayton Passed.
Meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Next Meeting: Friday, February 19, 1993, 7:30 p.m.
Levine School of Music

Submitted by: 
Richard A. Dorr
FCPAA Secretary
January 10, 1992